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WRL NEWS

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CREATIVE NONVIOLENCE IN U.S. HISTORY

That's the topic of the Peace Calendar for the Bicentennial year, 1976. The Establishment Bicentennial will remember Washington and Jefferson—but not Mary Dyer, Adin Ballou, Alice Paul, Cyrus Pringle, Joseph Ettor, Jane Addams, Big Bill Haywood, A.J. Muste, Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King Jr. These, other such individuals and the nonviolent actions in which they took part, will be featured in the text and illustrations (many of them, photos) embodied in the calendar.

The editor is Larry Gara, history professor at Wilmington (Ohio) College. Professor Martin Duberman has written the introduction.

The price is $3 apiece, $11 for four—postpaid. Order now.

SEEK PLEDGES IN WRL FINANCIAL CRISIS

As this issue goes to press the financial situation of WRL remains critical. Mailings are getting done with borrowed funds. Grants for local work and staff salaries are overdue.

The problem has arisen not from a lack of concern by WRL members—but a decrease, after the end of the Vietnam war, in the total mailing list. There is no "fat" in WRL's budget—any cuts that must be made in program or staff will be a serious step backward.

All members recently have received a fund appeal detailing the situation and suggesting a program of regular pledges which will make it possible to conquer the deficit and move ahead on program. This is a reminder that if you have not responded yet to that special appeal, that you use the enclosed business reply envelope to do so. The government taxes us against our will for a massive military machine—building the machinery of peace is a voluntary act. How much peace is worth is up to each individual. Only one thing is certain—the funds for peace work come from the people, not from the government.

IRS DOES IT AGAIN!

On September 18 IRS grabbed $426.26 from WRL bank account for taxes not withheld from staff tax resisters during last quarter of 1971. Last year IRS took $3175.12.

VICTORY DEMO INSTEAD OF SIT-IN AT IRS

by Craig Simpson

I arrived around sunset on August 30 in hot, humid Washington for the projected sit-in at IRS four days later protesting the sale of the Bromley home in Cincinnati. But, upon reaching Phoenix House, headquarters for the demonstration, I was greeted by Wendy Rawlins of the Peacemakers collective, who informed me that, only the previous day, IRS had agreed to annul the sale and that, in place of the sit-in, there would be a victory demonstration at IRS. She told me how the collective had worked slowly and directly over the past three months in Washington. This persistence, the threat of bad publicity for IRS and the pressure of a civil disobedience action, resulted in the IRS decision. In Commissioner Alexander's own words: "We are in a no-win situation and we might as well do what is right." From the start, Peacemakers had maintained that the sale of the house was not only unjust but technically illegal.

So, on the eve prior to Sept. 3, about 100 of us gathered to map last minute plans for the victory demonstration. There were persons from many parts of the country. Fred Moore of California had sold his car, left his daughter with relatives and hitched east for the sit-in in Washington.

By 9 the next morning, all of us were at the Pennsylvania Avenue and Constitution

contd. on p. 2

PROTEST ANTI-WRL CRACK IN *TV GUIDE*

"Next time you want to talk to Americans who *work* at being Americans and human beings, just call on me or one of my friends in the War Resisters League!"

Thus, Vincent Frazzetta Jr. concluded his letter to TV GUIDE protesting an article by John Roche asserting "If you know your customers, you never confuse Americans with the War Resisters League."

Frazzetta is a WRLer living in Seymour, Connecticut. In his protest letter, he said: "I was going to write a few pages to instruct you that sanity, pacifism and patriotism can go hand-in hand." But he wound-up by saying it in 3 paragraphs.

2 REACTIONS TO NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Harry Richardson of Lincoln, Nebr. writes: "I found it a very useful and interesting experience. It was a very good feeling of solidarity and comfort to know there are people all over the nation working at our common effort. I also was very pleased to meet and come to know, if briefly, such hardworking movement people as Jim, Igal, Ralph, David and others."

Mike Abell of Rockville, Md., writes: "This was the first time I ever attended a WRL annual conference (or any other WRL get-together) and I must say I was tremendously impressed–by the people, by the goodwill and sharing and by the wide range of interests encompassed at such a gathering. Those people I did meet and spend some time with were all so fantastic that I came away with a whole new surge of energy and spirit."

BEQUESTS TO WRL

WRL recently received a $1000 bequest from the estate of Orlie Pell, former treasurer of the League. If you wish to remember WRL in your will, the following form is suggested:

> I bequeath . . . dollars ($ . . .) to War Resisters League, incorporated under the laws of New York State, with headquarters at 339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012.

BUSTED FOR PLANTING SEEDLINGS AT NUCLEAR STORAGE SITE

This photo shows federal marshals arresting Jim Albertini, Wallace Inglis and Claire Grossman for the "crime" of planting papaya, cocoanut and mango seedlings at a nuclear weapons storage site (Waikele Ammunition Depot) near Honolulu.

"By planting life-giving food on nuclear burial grounds, we hope to expose and dramatize the folly and madness of planting death-dealing bombs in good Hawaian agricultural earth," explained Inglis. Some 20 other persons participated in the demonstration but remained outside the depot. Initiating this dramatic protest action, which took place July 10, was WRL/Catholic Action and AFSC.

Four weeks later, on Hiroshima Day, a second planting of seedlings took place at the same site, but there were no arrests. On Nagasaki Day a similar demonstration was held at West Loch Ammunition Depot, another nuclear weapons storage site.

IRS-(cont. from p. 1)

Avenue entrances to IRS picketing and leafleting. By noon, Ashton Jones, a veteran pacifist actionist, had been dragged out of the lobby three times. At about one, the victory celebration got under way at the main entrance steps. There was singing, square dancing, an act by Herbie the Clown–and a period of silence. What we were saying is: we're happy that the Bromleys will get back their house, but we still have a long way to go in our campaign to end compulsory taxation for war.

THANKS TO LIFE FUNDS

The Life Funds of the Philadelphia War Tax Resistance and the New England War Tax Resistance have each made loans of $1000 to help the WRL in its present financial crisis. Thanks sisters and brothers.

AGAPE FOUNDATION

This Community Fund for Nonviolent Social Change has issued its report describing 42 nonviolent projects which received grants during the year. For a copy send 40¢ to AGAPE Report, P.O. Box 6749, Stanford, Ca. 94305.

PEACE? IN THE MIDDLE EAST

by Allan Solomonow

On Yom Kippur of 1973 the Egyptians and the Syrians launched a massive military thrust bursting through Israeli defense lines in the Sinai and the Golan Heights in what was to become the bloodiest encounter of Israeli and Arab.

On Yom Kippur of 1975, Israeli folk hero Abie Nathan had gathered thousands of flowers from his fellow Israelis and took them on his Peace Ship to the Suez Canal to give to the Egyptian people. This splendid gesture of Abie Nathan's is merely one of myriad signs of a "new" Middle East, a Middle East that has begun to struggle up from the depths of unrelenting violence towards the possibility of a future.

The signs of a stirring, of a need to break with the past have been growing since the last war: however it has taken the actual signing of formal accords between the Egyptian and the Israeli governments, by any standards a brilliant diplomatic coup, to bring the reality of this change to the full consciousness of people throughout the world.

There can be no question of our entering a new era of Isreali relations with Egypt and in all probability Syria too. Given that, has Kissinger managed to bring us closer to peace? Just as we American war resisters have mistrusted, justly, our own government for so long can we not yet believe that Kissinger's efforts are a step, even a small one, in the right direction? (For all of the temptations to rejoice, there are obvious, sobering reasons to wait in our judgment.)

It is difficult to understand the full implications of the accords in the abstract. Regretfully the generations of this conflict have brought little illumination. At the height of the Indochina conflict the peace community sent team after team to meet with those in Indochina whose hands could fashion a workable peace. With the exception of such emissaries as Paul Jacobs, the Middle East remains to this day a terra incognita for pacifists, a place where one knows the kibbutzim and where to find terrific hashish but knows little of the politics and seldom strays to visits with Arab intellectuals or Palestinian radicals.

This summer the Fellowship of Reconciliation sponsored a visit of nineteen peace activists, predominantly pacifist and including six WRL members, to explore a dialogue on nonviolent alternatives with those in the Middle East who can influence the prospects for reconciliation. The tour encompassed Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Israel and included encounters with government officials, radicals and intellectuals, PLO leadership, Syrian Jews and many others. The AFSC also undertook a similar tour ending slightly before ours began.

My own experience on the tour was that everyone "wants" peace; yet few believe that the "other side" does, each lacks credibility in the eyes of the other. Beyond this very real psychological dimension, one issue occupied the minds of most with whom we met: what about the Palestinian people? The accords appear to be a half-step on the former, they ought to help restore credibility between Israel and her neighboring Arab government, but not the people Israel must live with, the Palestinian people. Nor are the Palestinians a part to the accords. How, I wondered, at the signing of the accords, would my friends in the Middle East have responded?

Israeli attitudes are a collage of brilliant contrasts: while the right-wing LIKUD musters thousands to protest American "coercion", the Left has given birth to two new political movements seeking a new understanding with the Palestinian people of which one aspect is support for Kissinger's efforts. As Israeli writer, Peretz Kidron observes, "This is probably the only place in the world where the right attacks Kissinger and the left shows up to demonstrate for him." Professor Danny Amit at Hebrew University, a member of the Israeli New Left organization SIACH, goes on to say he would prefer a bourgeois, imposed peace to a destructive, imperialist war.

The only Isrealis to consistently deny the existence of a Palestinian people were neither from the right nor the left but among those we met in the Isreali government. While it may be a stirring tribute either to American power or Kissinger's skill—or both—that the Accords arose out of tenacious reluctance within the Isreali cabinet, Israel has had its way regarding the one issue that matters; the Palestinians.

If Israelis remain to be convinced that peace is around the corner, the Arab peoples have an abundance of faith in their new-found benefactor, the United States. Mussa Sabry of the Al Akhbar, a daily, saw our government as bringing the Arab peoples out of poverty without drawing its pound of flesh in return. Thus while Israelis would mention Indochina as an example of America's tendency to abandon its friends, many Arabs go to the other extreme discounting Chile as being a model of what could happen to their government.

The accords, a development that would have been ridiculed a year ago, are the most concrete illustration of a shift in Arab policy. For all of the cynicism branding the Arabs (all Arabs) as hell-bent on destroying Israel and the Jews, the clashes between Sadat, the more radical Arab states and the PLO are vivid testimony to the rise of American influence.

Our discussions with the Palestinians were by far the most thoughtful and the most pessimistic in the Arab world. There was detailed discussion of the number of Palestinians who might return to an independent state, the relation of that state to Israel and what might come to pass following the formation of a Palestinian state. These exchanges consistently noted that neither Israel nor the Arab states effectively wish to support such a state even on the West Bank and Gaza, the territories now occupied by Isreal. In the context of the Accords this fear seems prophetic.

The United States has done precisely what Noam Chomsky predicted a year ago: to isolate the one political force in the Middle East that it cannot control in the hope of attaining a peace accompli. The gamble is that at some point the Palestinians will pick up their marbles, call it a day, and agree to be absorbed as a "semi-autonomous" state federated with the Royal Kingdom of Jordan. The reality of peoples struggling for their liberation is that terrorism will rise to new levels and with it internal clashes in the various Arab governments (as we are now witnessing in Lebanon) and with that the prospect of further, deeper American presence in the Middle East.

In point of fact the accords are a seven-league step towards the Americanization of the Middle East. For those whose memory is now failed them since Indochina, peace is no more close to the Middle East than American money and investment, than ex-CIA and NSA employees (armed with "light" arms), than the Secretary of State's own brand of Paris-type accords (secret protocols and all) can buy. And that is NOT very close.

With the enticing bait of an unprecedented breakthrough in Isreali relations with Egypt and probably Syria, the shakey ground has been laid for more armaments, further Palestinian frustration and the prospect of American intervention in the most energy-laden area of the world, a place where we are willing to intervene IF it should "strangle" us.

THE CONTINENTAL WALK FOR DISARMAMENT AND JUSTICE

by Joanne Sheehan

War is a crime against humanity. This should have become totally clear thirty years ago. The bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the murder of hundreds of thousands of people, should have shocked the world into putting an end to war forever. Yet for 30 years governments have been talking of disarmement while developing deadlier weapons each year. And while this country spends more than $100 billion a year on the preparations for war, people are without jobs, decent housing, an adequate diet, medical care, etc.

To raise the issue of disarmament and related issues throughout the country, The Continental Walk for Disarmament and Social Justice is being planned. The Walk will begin in San Francisco in early February 1976 and end up in Washington, D.C. at the Pentagon 8 months later. Initiated by WRL, the Walk is presently sponsored by eight national peace groups.

Although a few hardy sould have expressed interest in walking all or a large part of the way, the Walk will primarily be made up of a series of walks. Local groups will be part of a relay—picking up where the last leaves off and ending where the next community will pick up. Each community will take responsibility for organizing activities in its area. These may include teach-ins, a demonstration or other action at a military installation, Federal Building, military contractor, nuclear power plant, etc. These actions should not only be done while the Walk is going through the area, but be part of an on-going campaign. Local issues will be determined by the people organizing the various links of the Walk, but are expected to be connected with the national/international themes.

The primary purpose of the Walk is to raise the issue of disarmament through *unilateral action*. While we demand that the Department of Defense budget and other defense spending be cut, we must educate people about nonviolent resistance—a far more superior, and the only humane means, of defending all people.

The Walk brings together the concerns for disarment and social justice. We must demonstrate how our global, domestic and economic problems are interconnected with militarism and the causes of war. In examining the causes of war, we must look at sexism and racism and all forms of oppression and violence, and work towards their elimination. These issues are not totally separate from the goal of disarmement. International power politics seem to be a case of "proving one's manhood", acted out on a lethal scale. The Mayaguez ship incident is one of the most glaring examples. When such behavior is no longer considered sane, war will more easily be avoided.

The Walk provides a vehicle for us to show unity and solidarity with each other. Besides the obvious connection of communities joining together to span the length of the continent, the Walk provides a vehicle for us to support each other's struggles.

What can you do in your community? Get together with people concerned about over-crowded classrooms, the absence of a decent health care clinic, or the closing of a day care center for lack of funds. Hold a teach-in as to where tax monies are going (over half go to the military), and what they could be doing to improve life rather than destroy it. When the Walk reaches your community, gather at a local military contractor, the IRS, or other appropriate place for a demonstration. Here, tax monies which have been resisted can be collected. The Walk proceeds to the day care center where the money is given to them.

This is only one simple idea which can be elaborated upon. Each community has its own concerns which are related to the national and international themes of the Walk.

If you have already received the brochure on the Continental Walk and have not filled in the coupon, please do. Or write to us and let us know you are interested in participating in some way.

We cannot continue this insanity called the arms race. We must make this world a better place for our children.

A YEAR WITH NONVIOLENCE IN EUROPE

by Craig Simpson

When I was about to leave New York in July 1974, for my year as WRL intern at the War Resisters International in Brussels, David McReynolds advised me I should learn two essentials 1) to speak French (because few American pacifists actually can) and 2) to learn all about fine European wines. Now, a year later, I must admit 1) I can't speak French (but I can almost read it) and 2) I know nothing about wines (although I tried many). I can say, however, I did learn much about war resistance and nonviolence not only in Europe but throughout the world.

The WRI office in Brussels is staffed by a collective of five people. With me, for 12 rainy months, were Lani and Joe Gerson, who recently returned to their home in Tempe, Arizona after over 2 years with WRI; Karl Heinz Seng and Ullie Reisberg, both West German members of the collective. All of us, except Ullie have been replaced by Kate Sheehan, Geoff Pope, (both of Atlanta) Heinz Werner Engel, and Marc Wagner. Our job was carrying out the work of the international nonviolent movement. Putting out the WRI Newsletter and War Resistance were primary tasks. But then there was traveling, speaking, fund-raising, emergency mailings, licking stamps, stuffing envelopes, arguing with post office officials and much more. I don't recall any sightseeing or vacationing by any of us. But I did get to visit Europe: to Italy for a council meeting of the WRI, to France to visit the Larzac and the Vietnamese in Paris, to Spain to visit the underground pacifists, to Britain for a speaking tour and organizing contacts in Holland for our Triennial conference and for the Peace Research Peace Activist conference (set up expertly by Beverly Woodward). In each country I learned about problems pacifists and pacifist organizers face, opposing war in their own nations. I learned of the struggle of COs in Fascist Spain, of the Buddhists in Vietnam, of the peasant leaders in Paraguay, of the 103 peasants in Larzac, France, who refuse to surrender their land to the military. There were also the mass sitins against nuclear power plants along the Rhine.

But most significant to me was the people I met: Gay Jones, organizer for a Manchester nonviolent group. Francis Welsh, nationalist leader jailed for nonviolent resistance in the independence struggle, a French woman activist working for the Namibia Transnational Collective. I remember Jose, a Spanish pacifist, talking calmly about demonstrations against the repressive Franco regime. These are just a few of the people who touched my life in Europe, who taught me hope and perspective in nonviolence on an international scale. Now, I can proceed, feeling a part of an international movement of people to end war and social injustice.

My knowledge of French and fine European wines never developed. But my knowledge of nonviolence has—thanks to my year with WRI.

A REPORT ON THE TRIENNIAL

by Steve Ladd

Working with the WRL in this country on the many vital issues that require so much of our attention and energy here, we often forget that we're part of an international nonviolent movement. Though I've been aware for many years of the existence of such a movement outside the US, I've never felt that it was particularly important or relevant to the work we do here. It always seemed so far away and removed.

Attending the 15th Triennial Conference of the War Resisters International this July in Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands, has changed all that. The experience of being for the first time among over 300 nonviolent activists who represented some 80 groups in 15 countries was tremendously energizing and exciting. Hearing firsthand reports of some of the amazing nonviolent struggles that WRI people are involved in, and getting a chance to meet and talk with many of these people, has helped me to understand just how important and relevant it is for us to increase our understanding of and cooperation with the international nonviolent movement.

The week-long gathering was actually divided into two parts. The first four days was planned as an informal "Festival of Nonviolent Political Alternatives," and the last 3 days was devoted to a WRI policy and business meeting.

The Festival was purposely left loosely structured to encourage a "do-it-yourself" style conference. The result was highly successful despite the need to do our own translations in many workshops to overcome the frequent language barriers (though there did tend to be a very great "English language imperialism").

Over 30 workshops were held and quite a number of films and slideshows presented on a huge range of topics. For example, there were men's groups, women's groups; workshops on the situations in such countries as Spain, Greece, India, and South Korea; workshops on alternative economics, land trusts, alternative medicine; and still others on war tax resistance, the urban crisis, the Middle East, and nonviolent training (try this one in three languages some time!).

It would be quite difficult to recapture here everything that happened during the Festival (especially since I couldn't be at everything), but some of the more memorable highlights for me were:

** Hearing a Greek man talk very emotionally about how the Greek Junta imprisoned and tortured him and others, and how some Greeks resisted the Junta.

** Seeing a very exciting film on the dramatic nonviolent campaign to stop the construction of a nuclear power plant in Wyhl, Germany, which included a takeover of the potential site by 28,000 people.

** Getting exhausted doing Spanish dances for many hours one night with about 100 others under the lively direction of the Spanish WRI members.

** Meeting with a small group of tax resisters from a number of different countries (including Japan, where a well-organized war tax resistance movement is just beginning).

** Participating in a moving, silent protest at the Indian Embassy in The Hague with 140 people from the conference who carried signs in 8 languages.

After the Festival, about 150 people remained for the three-day WRI Policy Meeting, which was much more formal and structured. The meeting seemed somewhat like a mini-United Nations General Assembly, since there were professional interpretors in windowed booths and translation boxes with headsets at our tables.

The key note struck during this part of the conference was that the WRI is faced with a number of very serious problems. The most urgent of these problems concerned the very survival of WRI. The new WRI treasurer, Jean van Lierde, reported that WRI was badly in debt and had only enough money to continue for 6 more months. He and others suggested cutting back on WRI program and staff, but most seemed to agree that the best procedure would be to increase WRI's outreach in hopes of generating income from new supporters rather than cutting back.

One of the other problems which Devi Prasad, the past chairperson and general secretary of WRI, noted quite honestly was the inability of WRI to have much of an impact on the current depressing situation in the world. This impotence, he felt, resulted largely from WRI's middle-class, Euro-American orientation and could only be overcome if WRI members deepened their convictions and undertook a much more realistic assessment of WRI's strength.

Two major items which had been scheduled for discussion and action at the Triennial, the WRI draft Middle East statement and "Towards Liberation" (a draft WRI manifesto), were acted upon during this part of the conference. A compromise was worked out on the Middle East statement, thanks to discussions in workshops during the Festival, which committed the WRI to circulate the draft WRI Middle East statement as well as two alternate statements with a cover article outlining the points of unity and points of disagreement in the three statements. "Towards Liberation" was simply accepted as a substantive contribution to more clearly defining our perspective on nonviolent revolution. It was not accepted as an official statement of the WRI.

Reports and resolutions of support were also presented at the policy meeting from many of the workshops held during the Festival. Some of these will help to guide the work priorities of the WRI.

Two notable internal struggles within the WRI were also brought out during the final three day meeting. Much to my surprise, the report from the workshop on sexism generated much heated discussion and elicited much of the sexism within the WRI that the report spoke of. Though the report was accepted, a number of people strongly objected to the reports call for a separate women's conference next spring and felt that sexism was not a problem within the WRI.

The other internal dispute pitted those who felt the WRI should concern itself solely with its traditional role of supporting and aiding conscientious objectors, and those who believed WRI must also concern itself more with the total picture of nonviolent revolution. Both struggles indicated the WRI still has some growing to do.

Despite the many differences, the frequent boredom, and the tension created by various difficult questions facing the WRI at this meeting, the conference ended on a positive note as all of us joined together in a huge and joyous circle to sing away our pent up feelings. These few moments enabled us all to leave the 15th Triennial in a spirit of great unity and support for one another, a spirit which was built and fortified for many of us during our week of being together.

WRI 15th Triennial report will be available. Send $2 to WRL.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE
by Molly Titcomb

photos by Karl Bissinger

Hosts to this year's national conference at Parkville, Missouri, are these members of WRL/Plains States: in front, Sylvia Chester and Michael Haught. In back (left to right) Paul Schaefer, Kathy Weamer, Joe Ann Moss, Bob Mayer, Craig Newby, Esther Gorley, Al Domain and Peggy McMahon. Also active in organizing the conference, but not in the photo, are Shiela and Paul Maassen.

(left to right) Steve Froemming of Atlanta, Ann Davidon of Philadelphia, Syd Peck of Boston and William Douthard of New York.

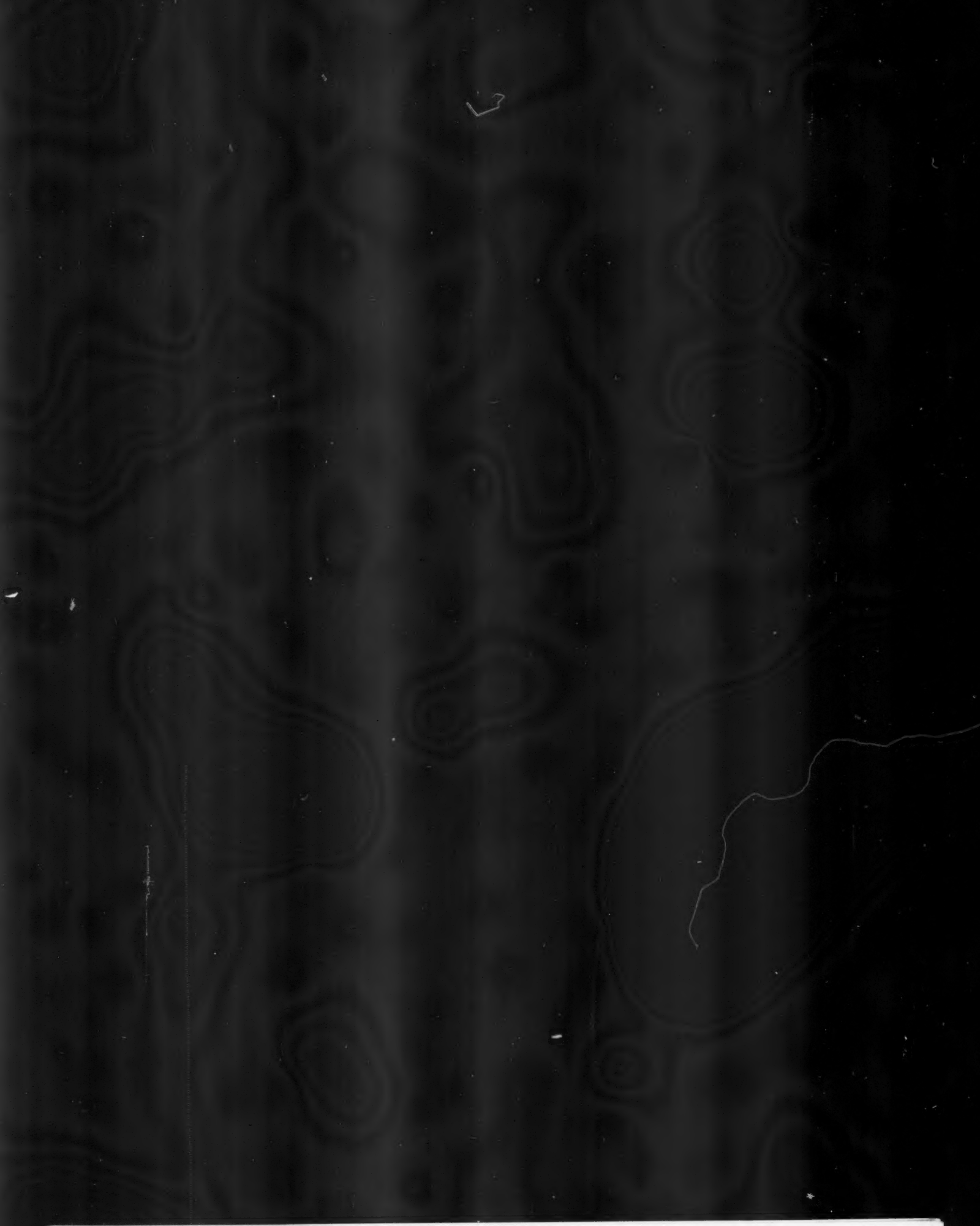
Government agents must have planned the rain, heat, and flies, but the WRL/Plains States folks did a great job on meeting arriving people, feeding us well (some would disagree, but who can cater to the different tastes of 150+ people?), and cheerfully taking care of us. As usual there was too much to talk about, too many people to see, and not enough time to party and play, much less get through all the work we wanted to do at our once a year get-together.

A highlight of the Conference was Craig Simpson's slide show about the many exciting nonviolent campaigns in Europe and elsewhere. Another was the War Tax Resistance "mini-conference" on Saturday night which turned out to be the biggest WTR Conference ever–War Tax Resistance is alive and well and living in Los Angeles and all over!

The Middle East workshop produced two papers which were put into final form by the National Committee. The first was a statement of our concern about the Palestinians and other Arabs being ignored in the recent Egyptian/American/Israeli negotiations, and about the attempts to oust Israel from the United Nations. The second was a letter from the Conference to Dr. Nabil Shaath of the PLO encouraging further work and communication on the nonviolent Palestinian "ship of return" he had discussed with WRLers and others during the recent Fellowship of Reconciliation tour of the Mideast.

The Continental Walk took up much of the Conference–far more than the one session originally planned for it–as regional and local people came together for the first time to begin work on the issues that the Walk originators had been struggling with for so long: How do we involve our local movements and causes in it? How much emphasis on the key issue of disarmament and how much on these causes where people are already working? How can locals and regional have more say in what the Walk Steering Committee does when we're so far from each other? And so on. We wound up eager to begin the many months of work around the Walk in our local communities, seeing its possibilities for outreach, new coalitions, working with groups we've not been close to before, bringing in new people, and getting down to those grass roots we're always talking about.

The Conference and the National Committee blended into one for those who stayed to wrestle with these and other issues, such as fund-raising for WRI, disarmament, amnesty, finances, Vietnam, prisons, sexism, and many more. Beverly Woodward was continued as WRI delegate. Regional chauvinism was seen to be a problem, with the possibility of staff sabbaticals from one office to another as one way to get to know and understand each other's areas better. (All those East Coast people who didn't come because Kansas City was too far should realize it was twice as far for the very respectable number of West Coasters who showed up!)

The NationalCommittee ended with a session on sexism and feminism in the WRL, stressing the need felt by many for a greater feminist consciousness in the way we work and organize, and also in the Continental Walk. Efforts will be made to convene a "Women and Nonviolence" workshop and a "Men and Nonviolence" workshop at next year's National Conference, and the Seattle WRL/WTR folks are interested in the possibility of a feminist-organized and oriented National WRL Conference in 1977.

We all wound up singing, starting with the "non-sexist, ecological, support-the-UFW" version of "Kansas City": ... *Kansas City here I come/They got some crazy little people there and I hope to meet me one ... I might take a bike, I might hitchhike ... with my Kansas City person and a bottle of UFW wine...;* and finishing just naturally in a friendly circle with "Amazing Grace". Ann Davidon volunteered to work on having next year's Conference at Haverford or elsewhere near Philadelphia.